News release

Weather set to play its part in final Ashes test

6 September 2005

Met Office forecasters are saying today that five days of very changeable weather are on the cards for the final Ashes test match at the Oval.

The weather often causes a headache for forecasters as well as cricketers, and bad light, as well as rain, are almost certain to affect play at various stages, helping generate a real nail-biter. The forecast for the match looks very mixed.

Forecast for the final test match at the Oval

Thursday	After a reasonable start, looks like clouding over with the chance of rain later in the day.
Friday	With a band of rain to the north-west and another to the south-east, the Oval may be affected by thick cloud cover through the day, and rain could affect the ground at any time.
Saturday	At present, looks the worst day, with thick cloud cover and outbreaks of rain. There's a high chance that this rain could be heavy and fairly persistent.
Sunday	Looks like an improving day, with early rain clearing and sunny spells developing.
Monday	In the balance, with doubts about the overall weather pattern. Best estimates are that it will be a reasonable day with a few showers possible.

All in all, a very tricky one to call through the whole match. Perhaps England are hoping for rain, but spectators will want to see more than an empty cricket pitch with the covers on.

Latest weather forecast for the south-east

For further information:
Met Office Press Office +44 (0)1392 886655
E-mail: pressoffice@metoffice.gov.uk

Met Office Customer Centre 0870 900 0100
If you're outside the UK +44 (0)1392 885680

© Crown copyright